



WHAT'S NEW?

Celebrate Takoma Festival
Saturday, May 20, 4 - 7 p.m.
Details on page 7

Racial Equity in Takoma Park
Page 4

City Attorney Retires
Page 3

Memorial Day
Monday, May 29
City offices closed

Trash collection/recycling
Monday, May 29
No yard waste collection
Compost collected Tuesday



Credit: Jamal Francis

Mayor Kate Stewart, City Councilmembers Jarrett Smith (Ward 5) and Fred Schultz (Ward 6), and dog park advocate Joe Edgell cut the ribbon to officially open the new dog park.

Gone to the dogs

By Rick Henry

It was a classic Takoma Park scene on Sunday, April 2. A diverse group of City residents, representing all genders, origins and nationalities, came together to celebrate the opening of a new community space. Some human beings were also in attendance.

The occasion was the grand opening and ribbon cutting for the new Takoma Park Dog Park located at the top of Takoma-Piney Local Park at the end of the parking lot on Darwin Avenue. Among the humans in attendance were Mayor Kate Stewart, City Council members and staff,

and members of the Takoma Park Police Department, including, appropriate for the occasion, McGruff the Crime Dog.

Judging by the reactions of those diverse attendees – shepherds and pugs and beagles and, in most cases, some sort of mix of origins – and their owners, the park was well-received and a total blast.

Allie, a six-year-old Shepherd mix, said through her owners, Lacy Alison and daughter, Andi, 8, that she was “super excited” about the park and planned to spend “a lot of time” there. Lacy Alison echoed Allie’s sentiments. “We used to live

DOG PARK □ Page 3

Takoma Park Car Free Challenge begins May 19

Takoma Park’s next big challenge to help the city reduce its greenhouse gas emissions is here. The Takoma Park Car Free Challenge will kick off on Bike to Work Day (May 19) and run through Oct. 19. The Car Free Challenge is a competition for everyone who lives or works in Takoma Park. Participants will earn points for the number of miles and the number of trips they take without using their cars.

Biking, walking and using mass transportation, including metro, commuter trains and buses, and carpooling all can earn you points. The main rule of the competition is that for any trip to count it must be a trip that you would normally take by car, such as going to work or the grocery store. Air travel will not earn you mass transportation points however, no matter

how overbooked your flights might be.

You can compete as an individual and on a team. If you live in Takoma Park, you will compete with the same neighborhood teams from the Neighborhood Energy Challenge. Will Forest Park and Longbranch Sligo win again, or maybe Hodges Heights will step up and snag a top prize? Anyone working in Takoma Park can create a new workplace team. Kids can join the challenge too and create classroom or school teams.

There will be lots of prizes throughout the competition. Monthly prizes will be awarded to keep momentum going, and there will be team challenges as well to help us find the greenest workplaces in

CAR FREE □ Page 11

Farmer’s market summer season begins

By Helen Lyons

The farmer’s market 2017 summer season officially kicked off on Easter Sunday, April 16, with the return of summer-only vendors.

“A handful of the vendors only come during the summer months,” explained Laura Barclay, executive director of Old Town Takoma Business Association. “The kick off of the farmer’s summer growing season is always the third weekend in April. Waterpenny farms, Potomac Vegetable farms, Calvert Gift farms – those are some of the big farms we see return that don’t participate in the winter months.”

A variety of farm stands and purveyors of locally produced goods were back on Laurel Avenue, selling everything from mushrooms and catnip to apples and apple pies. There were vegetable and herb plants for purchase, milk and cheeses and even wine from local vineyards, not to mention a special guest.

The Easter Bunny was present for the kick-off, but instead of handing out candy, Leo Elias of Education First was passing out vegetables. “I’ve got radishes, carrots, cucumbers and some apples as well,” Elias said. “It’s something great for the kids.”

With the start of the summer market season, there are now more 20 local farmers and producers gathering in downtown Takoma Park every Sunday, rain or shine, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to sell a wide range of goods.

In addition to farmer’s market staples like apples, green beans and

FARMERS MARKET □ Page 11



Credit: Helen Lyons

Leo Elias as the Easter Bunny

Mayor & Council
7500 Maple Ave.
Takoma Park, MD 20912

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Call for Artists**
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Explorers**
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**Medication
Safety**
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DOCKET

City Council & Committee Calendar

- OFFICIAL CITY GOVERNMENT MEETINGS**
TPCC: Takoma Park Community Center
- CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS**
Monday, May 1, 7:30 p.m. (Budget Work Session)
Wednesday, May 3, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 10, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 17, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 24, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, June 7, 7:30 p.m.
These City Council meetings will take place in the Community Center Auditorium.
- ARTS AND HUMANITIES COMMISSION**
Tuesday, May 23, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room
- BOARD OF ELECTIONS**
Monday, May 8, 7:30 p.m.
TPCC Council Conference Room
- COMMEMORATION COMMISSION**
Tuesday, May 9, 7:30 p.m.
TPCC Council Conference Room
- COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT**
Monday, May 1, 7:15 p.m.
TPCC Azalea Room
- COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT**
Monday, June 5, 7:15 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room
- EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE**
Thursday, May 25, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room
- FACADE ADVISORY BOARD**
Tuesday, May 9, 6:30 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room
- GRANTS REVIEW COMMITTEE**
Thursday, May 4, 7:30 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room
- GRANTS REVIEW COMMITTEE**
Thursday, June 1, 7:30 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room
- NOISE CONTROL BOARD**
To be determined.
Check online for details.
- NUCLEAR-FREE TAKOMA PARK COMMITTEE**
Tuesday, May 9, 7:30 p.m.
TPCC Lilac Room
- RECREATION COMMITTEE**
Thursday, May 18, 7 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room
- SAFE ROADWAYS COMMITTEE**
Tuesday, May 16, 7:30 p.m.
TPCC Hydrangea Room
- TREE COMMISSION**
Tuesday, May 9, 6:30 p.m.
TPCC Atrium Room
- *All meetings are open to the public unless noted otherwise. Schedule changes can occur after the *Takoma Park Newsletter* deadline. For the most up to date information, visit www.takomaparkmd.gov and click on "Events and Meetings." Most meetings are held in the Takoma Park Community Center – Sam Abbott Citizens' Center, 7500 Maple Avenue (TPCC). Individuals interested in receiving a weekly Council agenda and calendar update by e-mail can sign up at takomaparkmd.gov/government/city-council/agendas.

ADA NOTICE
The City of Takoma Park is committed to ensuring that individuals with disabilities are able to fully participate in public meetings. Anyone with a disability who 1) wishes to receive auxiliary aids, services, or accommodations at a City of Takoma Park public meeting or public hearing; or 2) cannot attend a public meeting but would like to record an audio comment to be played during the public comment period of the meeting, is invited to contact Jason Damweber, Deputy City Manager, at jasond@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7202 at least 48 hours in advance.

City Council Action

All actions take place in scheduled legislative meetings of the City Council. Only negative votes and abstentions/recusals are noted. Adopted legislation is available for review online at www.takomaparkmd.gov.

At the meeting on March 15, 2017, the City Council adopted **Ordinance 2017-9** awarding a contract to Summer Winter Automation for installation of digital controls for the heating, ventilation and air conditioning units in the Community Center. The contracted amount is \$115,000. The Council also approved a consent agenda that included **Resolution 2017-23** appointing Lori Grazio (Ward 2) and Stephanie Welch (Ward 4) to the Board of Elections and **Resolution 2017-24** appointing Stephanie Kaufman (Ward 3) to the Safe Roadways Committee.

On March 22, **Resolution 2017-25** was adopted to affirm support for the request of the Superintendent of Montgomery County Public Schools for a CIP Budget Amendment "Outdoor Play Space Maintenance Project for FY 2018." Of particular concern for the Council and residents is the condition of the Takoma Park Elementary School field. On March 22, two ordinances were adopted for the Sligo Mill Overlook Playground project. **Ordinance 2017-10** authorized execution of a contract for \$173,279 with SGX Inc. for construction of the playground. **Ordinance 2017-11** authorized execution of contracts for purchase of playground equipment from three vendors for a total cost of \$67,743.

Ordinance 2017-12 was adopted on April 5. The ordinance authorized additional funding in the amount of \$12,831 for completion of the door security hardware and ID software project. Also on April 5, the Council approved **Resolution 2017-26** which authorized execution of a consent order in *City of Takoma Park v. Marcial Properties Inc.* Under the consent order, the City of Takoma Park will obtain a right of way easement over the alley connecting Winding Hill Way to Flower Avenue and install speed humps if feasible under City law. The order requires the defendant to keep the right of way free of parked cars and other obstructions in exchange for the City's payment of \$15,000, and grants the Defendant the right to retain gates across the alley and close the gates overnight so long as Defendant owns the property. Councilmember Male voted against the Resolution.

On April 12, the City Council adopted a consent agenda. It included **Ordinance 2017-13** approving a contract with Tito Contractors in the amount of \$151,320 for renovation of the IT Server Room. The second consent agenda item was **Ordinance 2017-14** approving a contract with Taser International for replacement of the police Interview Room video system, offsite data storage and retention, and additional body worn camera hardware. The cost for the first year of the five-year contract is \$20,199.34. The ongoing cost is \$5,965 per year. The third item in the consent agenda was **Ordinance 2017-15** approving a three-year lease agreement for two electric vehicles for the Neighborhood

CITY COUNCIL ACTION ☐ Page 3

FY 2018 Living Wage Rate Established

Every City contract for the provision of services awarded after a competitive bid or proposal process requires the contractor and any subcontractor to pay each employee assigned to perform services under the City contract a living wage. The current living wage rate is \$14.40 per hour. Effective July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018, the Takoma Park living wage rate will be \$14.55. Certain contracts are exempted from this requirement. Additional information can be found at takomaparkmd.gov/services/bids-contracts.

Important City Phone Numbers			
City Information	301-891-7100	Housing & Community Development	301-891-7119
City Clerk.....	301-891-7267	Library	301-891-7259
City Manager	301-891-7229	Police	301-270-1100 / Emergency 911
City TV	301-891-7118	Public Works.....	301-891-7633
Finance	301-891-7212	Recreation/Facilities Rental	301-891-7290

VACANCIES ON CITY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

Interested in serving? A great first step is to review information at: www.takomaparkmd.gov/government/boards-commissions-and-committees. Then, attend a meeting to see if it is a good fit for you. If you have questions, contact the committee, or talk to your City Councilmember or the City Clerk. Appointments are made by the City Council. Apply by completing the online application and submit it along with a resume or statement of qualifications.

The following groups have vacancies as of April 14, 2017:

The **Arts and Humanities Commission** advises the City Council on ways in which the City might best serve the public with regard to matters involving the arts; encourages and aids the appreciation and awareness of, and participation in, the arts; encourages cooperation and coordination among individuals, organizations and institutions concerned with the arts in Takoma Park; and facilitates employment opportunities for artists and the development of self-sustaining arts programs. (2 vacancies)

The **Commemoration Commission** documents, maintains, and preserves past, present, and future memorials, commemoratives, and recognitions in the City; recommends to the City Council procedures and programs to honor and commemorate individuals, organizations and businesses that have made significant contributions to the social, cultural, historical, political, economic, or civic life of the City or its neighborhoods; recommends programs for individuals to honor others; implements such programs; and decides on recognitions after opportunity for public review and comment. (5 vacancies; there no members from Ward 4 or Ward 5)

The **Ethics Commission** provides written advisory opinions; investigates, hears, and decides in ethics inquiries and complaints; conducts a public education program; recommends legislative changes and improvements to the Ethics Ordinance; and promulgates regulations to accompany the Ethics Ordinance. (2 vacancies)

The **Facade Advisory Board** serves as an advisory panel to help ensure that facade designs and their maintenance are harmonious and consistent with the intended quality and character of the commercial areas of Takoma Park; provide guidance and assistance to commercial building and business owners seeking permits for facade alterations, signs, and new construction work; and inform residents and business owners of the historic district benefits and the requirement to continue coordinating with the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission regarding necessary approvals. (1 vacancy)

The **Grants Review Committee** evaluates applications for a number of City grant programs and makes funding recommendations to the City Council. The grant programs are: Cultural and S.T.E.M. grants, Program and Operational Support grants; Capital Project grants; and CDBG grants. (1 vacancy)

The **Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee** oversees implementation and adherence to the Takoma Park Nuclear Free Zone Act and provides public information and issues related to the Ordinance. (1 vacancy)

The **Recreation Committee** advises the City Council on how best to serve the diverse recreation needs of Takoma Park residents, including but not limited to reviewing and recommending policies and programs that concern recreational opportunities within the City, with a special emphasis on youth and seniors and broad and diverse participation. (3 vacancies)

The **Safe Roadways Committee** advises the City Council on transportation-related issues including, but not limited to, pedestrian and bicycle facilities and safety, traffic issues, and transit services and encourages Takoma Park residents to use alternatives to driving, including walking, bicycling, and transit. (4 vacancies)

Stay informed about City Council meetings and agendas! Subscribe to the weekly email list. You'll find the subscription form on the Council agenda page: <https://takomaparkmd.gov/government/city-council/agendas>.

Retirement reflections on serving as Takoma Park City Attorney



Susan Silber

By Susan Silber

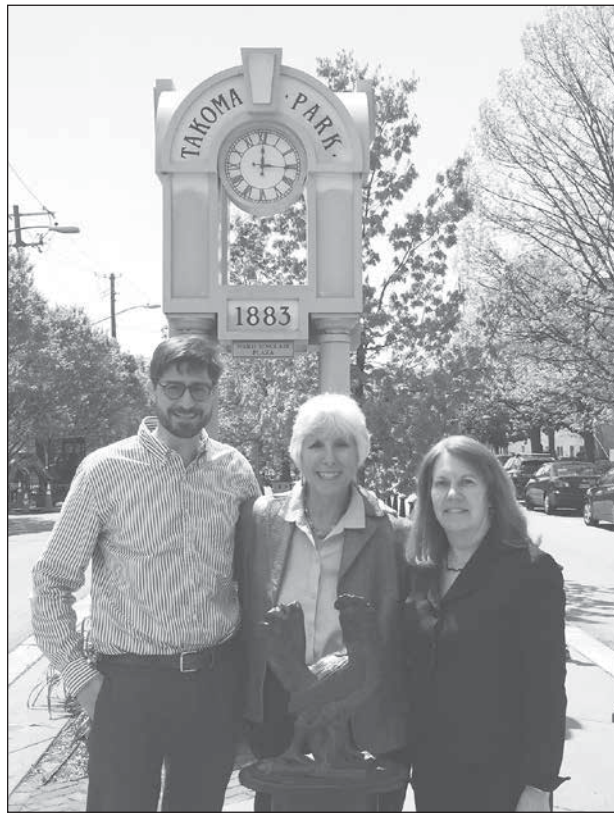
There is much we have preserved and much that has changed during my 35 years as Takoma Park's City Attorney. I smile every time I walk to the metro station and see that it is still framed in green despite efforts to build townhouses there. Route 410 is still a two-lane road, not a freeway. Children who attended Takoma Park Middle

School send their own children to the same vibrant, diverse classrooms despite multiple attempts to shut it down.

Every day I pass by the Sammie Abbott Citizen's Community Center, and every weekend I stroll along the Sligo Creek Park Hiker-Biker trail. Now bustling with the farmer's market, restaurants and colorful shops, it's hard to recollect how quiet and vacant the streets of Old Town Takoma were back in 1981 when I was first appointed. Today, as we see so many of our community values under attack, I reflect on how this Azalea city, this city of trees, was built and has flourished due to our collective vision and the legal groundwork to support it.

What gives me the most pride is the deliberative way the Takoma Park government has consistently promoted public policies that nurture inclusiveness, equity and diversity in our community. The work of a city attorney is often based in the routine details of advising a municipal government. On the eve of my retirement, I want to honor the legal framework we have helped to design and highlight areas for further growth in the hope that as a community we continue to cultivate these core values of civic liberty and participation. Here are some key areas that stood out for me as I reflected on my tenure as City Attorney:

- **Voting:** To stimulate civic engagement and representation, Takoma Park adopted a system of ward representation (to replace at-large voting districts). We opened



Silber and partners Ken Sigman and Linda Perlman

voting to non-citizens and to 16 and 17 year-old youths to give them a voice in shaping City policy.

- **Sanctuary:** In 1985 Takoma Park legislated its commitment to protecting all immigrants (including those without documentation) in all City functions and services. This policy has been re-affirmed and expanded over many years as conditions changed nationally and as the federal policies have shifted.
- **LGBTQ families:** Takoma Park has not only welcomed diverse families, we have attracted them based on our leadership in advancing LGBT legal recognition. Takoma Park was a plaintiff in successful litigation to keep a hostile group ("Citizens for Decent Government") from forcing a referendum on the Montgomery County civil

rights law. Our City Charter and Code were revised to ensure that LGBT families receive equal treatment. We created our own Domestic Partner Registry and spearheaded the ability to provide health insurance to same-sex partners in a plan provided statewide for local governments.

- **Landlord-tenant rights, COLTA, and rent stabilization:** Almost half of our residents are renters. We have tried to ensure good living conditions through code enforcement efforts and fair treatment of tenants. Rent stabilization provides housing stability by ensuring affordability. We also established a Commission on Landlord-Tenant Affairs ("COLTA") to resolve landlord-tenant disputes outside of the court system. Takoma Park's laws have been revised and improved several times during my tenure and have survived legal challenges.

City Attorneys never work in isolation; we achieve by working together. I have been fortunate to work with excellent city managers: Jim Wilson, Bev Habada, Rick Finn, Barb Matthews, Brian Kenner and Suzanne Ludlow; effective mayors: Sammie Abbott, Steve Del Giudice, Ed Sharp, Kathy Porter, Bruce Williams and Kate Stewart; and committed, responsive councilmembers, City staff, and volunteers too numerous to name. My work has been supported by members of my law firm as well, especially Ken Sigman and Linda Perlman. Ken has been selected to carry on as City Attorney following my retirement.

Takoma Park has not only been a wonderful client, it is my community and my home. I served here as Takoma Park City Attorney for 35 years, started my private law practice, and raised my two children, Danielle and Avi, here. I am confident Takoma Park will continue to follow its vision of acting locally, while working toward a just global community. It's been quite a run! Carry on!

The City Council will present a resolution to Silber at its June 14 meeting in recognition of her many years of dedicated service to the community. A reception will precede the meeting at 6:30 p.m., and residents are invited to attend.

Editor's Note: Susan Silber continues her private practice of law in Takoma Park with Silber, Perlman, Sigman & Tilev.

CITY COUNCIL ACTION

■ From page 2

Services Team. The yearly cost for the lease is \$6,803.88. Councilmember Kovar voted against the consent agenda. The last item voted on during the meeting was **Resolution 2017-27**. The resolution encourages Takoma Park landlords to house refugees and asylees and directs the City Manager to explore options for providing financial assistance from the City's Affordable Housing Reserve Fund.

All actions take place in scheduled legislative meetings of the City Council. Only negative votes and abstentions/recusals are noted. Adopted legislation is available for review online at www.takomaparkmd.gov (search "resolutions" or "ordinances").

DOG PARK

■ From page 1

in Adams Morgan, and there was a dog park there," she said. "That's how we met all of our neighbors.

In her opening remarks, Mayor Kate Stewart also stressed the merits of the dog park as a community vehicle. "There have been 'unofficial' dog parks throughout the city for a long time," she said. "But now, we have a place where people can come together."

It wasn't easy. Efforts to build the park began in earnest in early 2013, spearheaded by Joe Edgell and his partner Dr. Barbara Muhlbacher, a veterinarian at the



Credit: Jamal Francis

Mayor Kate Stewart addresses residents gathered for the opening of the dog park.

Georgia Crossing Veterinary Center in Wheaton. The pair felt the City needed a dog park and created an organization, Takoma Dogs, to advocate for the project.

They started with a petition to the City Council with Edgell as the first signer. The petition eventually grew to more than 1,500 signatures. From that small grassroots beginning came the painstaking process of approval by the Council, site selection, permitting and, in October 2016, the first shovels of construction. When asked at the grand opening about his reaction to seeing it come to fruition, Edgell gave a long sigh and responded, "Finally!" "I'm very pleased," he said. "There was a lot of effort involved."

Mayor Stewart cited those efforts, praising Edgell and Takoma Dogs, park archi-

tect Eric Saul, City Council and staff, and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (Park and Planning), among other groups and individuals involved in making the park a reality.

"We looked at a lot of different locations, and it took longer than any of us wanted, but look at the result," she said, emphasizing that one of the park's main features is a stormwater drainage easement that was incorporated into the project.

But on Grand Opening Day, politics and permits weren't on the minds of Cyrus, Seamus, Rhombus, Skippy, Dexter, Bailey and the other residents in attendance. Most important to them – there were balls to chase, turf to frolic upon and a slope to roll down.



THE TAKOMA PARK NEWSLETTER

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Assistant: Sean Gossard
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Letters to the editor, reports by community groups, calendar items and other submissions will be considered for publication; send to tpnewseditor@takomaparkmd.gov

takomaparkmd.gov or Newsletter, City of Takoma Park, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, Md. 20912.

Name, address and telephone number must accompany all submitted material. Editor reserves the right to edit for length, clarity, style, spelling and grammar.

Published material containing opinions does not necessarily reflect the views of the Newsletter or the City of Takoma Park.

The Newsletter does not accept commercial, classified or political advertisements.

The Newsletter is printed on recycled—content paper.





BUILDING COMMUNITY

Rent Stabilization Allowance (Annual Rent Increase)

1.3%

Effective July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018

The Takoma Park's law (*City Code Chapter 6.20 Rent Stabilization*) maintains the affordability of rental units in the community by limiting the number and amount of rent increases that may be charged for a specific rental unit. Generally the rent may be increased only once in a given 12 month period and rent increases are limited to the annual increase in the Consumer Price Index. The rent stabilization allowance is calculated on an annual basis and applies to all licensed multi-family rental facilities with two or more rental units and to all licensed condominium units.

The 2017-2018 Rent Stabilization Allowance is 1.3% and will be in effect beginning

July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. Landlords required to comply with Takoma Park's Rent Stabilization law cannot increase the rent on occupied units any higher than this allowance.

Multi-family rental properties and individually-owned condominiums rental

units are subject to Takoma Park's Rent Stabilization laws; however the following units may be exempt from many of the requirements of rent stabilization:

- Rental units leased to tenants under the Housing Choice Voucher Program;
- Any rental facility that is subject to a regulatory agreement with a governmental agency that controls the rent levels of not less than one-half of the rental units in the rental facility and restricts the occupancy of those rental units to low and moderate income tenants; and
- Newly constructed rental units for a period five years after construction.

The exemption is not automatic and is subject to the approval of the City. If you have any questions about the rent on your unit or Takoma Park's Rent Stabilization law, please contact Jean Kerr at 301-891-7216.

Racial equity in Takoma Park

From Mayor Kate Stewart and Councilmember Jarrett Smith

This January the City Council held its yearly retreat to discuss our priorities and to take a step back from our weekly meetings to look at long-term goals for our community. This year, as part of our retreat meetings, we invited a speaker from the National League of Cities to present and facilitate an open and honest dialogue about racial equity and the way in which we can proactively address issues of racism and inequality in our community.

Prior to and during our retreat, we looked at the history of racism in our country and how this has led to current day disparities in education and job attainment, housing, and many quality of life indicators for people of color. In particular, we examined how racial inequity today is not just overtly racist talk or action but rather racial inequities have come to be ingrained and institutionalized in our policies and practices, even those we believe to be race neutral. And therefore, we must disrupt and unpack seemingly neutral policies and practices to see if they are contributing to inequity.

Specifically, when we discuss racial equity, we mean the development of policies, practices, and investment in the community to reverse racial disparity trends, dismantle institutional racism, and ensure that outcomes and opportunities for all people are no longer determined by race.

We plan to institute methods that have worked in cities around the country to



Kate Stewart



Jarrett Smith

update, eliminate, or create government policies, practices, and programs specifically to dismantle existing racial disparities. Our goal is to commit ourselves to applying a racial equity lens to decisions across government, and thereby continue to build an inclusive, equitable community and ensure a vibrant and healthy community for all our residents.

We want to thank our colleagues and the City staff for embracing and supporting this new approach to our work. We look forward to this first step and working with members of the community as we continue to find ways to adopt a racial equity framework in our city and ensure we are building a strong, inclusive, and healthy community.

Effective Wednesday, April 5, 2017, the Council began including a "Racial Equity Impact Statement" on all its agenda items. A slightly longer version of Stewart and Smith's statement appeared on the City's website: takomaparkmd.gov/city-council-and-mayor-blog/racial-equity-in-takoma-park.

Bond bill for library renovation approved

Takoma Park's Bond Bill request for \$150,000 for library renovation has been approved. Many thanks to former Friends of the Library Board President Tim Rahn, who raced to the library on a rainy night to testify before state legislature representatives in support of this bill. Thanks also to Ward 1 Councilmember Peter Kovar, who testified in support of the bond bill in Annapolis and was instrumental in securing its approval. We are on our way!



Bike to Work May 19!

This year Bike to Work Day will be held on Friday, May 19, at two "pit stop locations" in Takoma Park.

1. Sligo Creek Parkway at New Hampshire Avenue (7-9:30 a.m.)
2. Old Takoma at the Gazebo (6-9 a.m.)

The event is free and fun for all ages and provides an opportunity for community members to utilize the City's new Capital Bikeshare stations (located at the Takoma Park Recreation Center and Kirklynn Avenue).

Register today at www.biketoworkmetrodc.org.

If you would like to volunteer at the event or are a business that can sponsor with in-kind donations (food, prizes, giveaways, etc.), contact Jamee Ernst at jameee@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7217.

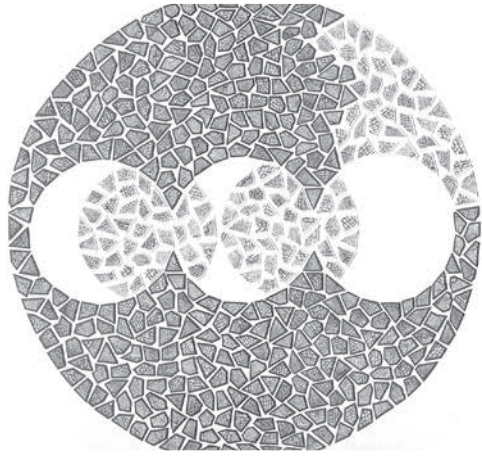


First-Time Home Buyers Seminar

**Saturday, May 6, 2017 • 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Community Center**

Are you ready to buy a home, but not sure where to start? You can take the first step by attending this *free* first-time home buyer seminar to be led by the Latino Economic Development Corporation (LEDC), a HUD certified housing organization. You will learn the entire home buying process from how to obtain a mortgage and to understanding the terms of the loan. Attend the entire session and receive a certificate of completion, allowing you access to low-interest loans. Class size is limited and pre-registration is required. To register, please contact the Housing & Community Development Department at 301-891-7119 or email us at housing@takomaparkmd.gov. Continental breakfast and light lunch will be provided.

We Are Takoma May Events



"Currency Value," Lauren Kotkin

The Space Between Thursday, May 4, 7–8:30 p.m.

Join us for a free reception to celebrate the opening of our new exhibition *The Space Between*. Art is made in the space between our lives, the spaces between daily events and challenges – both negative and positive. Featuring works by Elizabeth Ashe, James Cassell, Sarayu Iyer, Lauren Kotkin, and Lisa Rosenstein. Meet the artists and discuss their works. We hope to see you there.

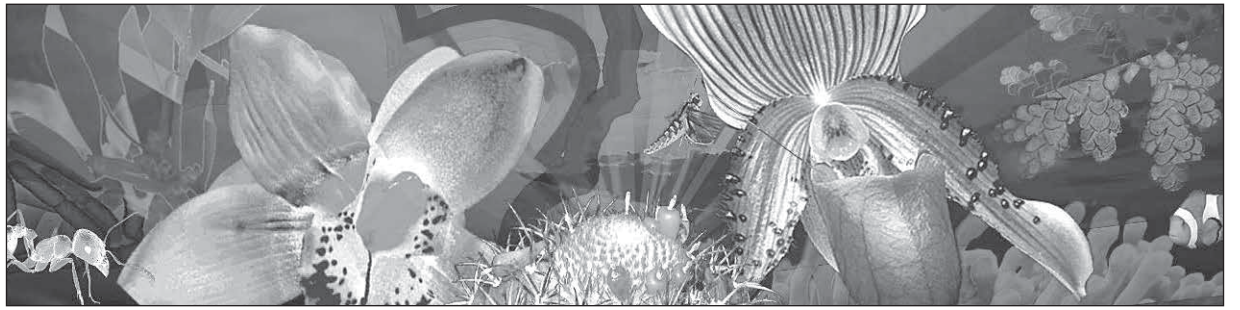


From *The Crooked Tune*, Courtesy Charles Cohen

Docs in Progress Presents Screening of *The Crooked Tune* Thursday, May 11, 7:30 p.m.

We Are Takoma partners with Docs in Progress to bring you the story of one man's journey to keep alive a slice of musical Americana. Fiddler Dave Bing toils to play and preserve West Virginia old-time music. Come for the film and stay for the question and answer session with filmmaker Charles Cohen.

THE ARTS



Holton mural design concept. Courtesy Peter Krsko

Holton Mural - Community Paint!

**Saturday, May 20, 10 a.m. ; Tuesday, May 23, 4 p.m.; Saturday, May 27, 10 a.m.;
Wednesday, May 31, 4 p.m.**

Help artist Peter Krsko paint a new community mural! The mural will be on the side of El Alazan Western Wear, 1337 Holton Lane. Community painting days happen May 20, 23, 27, and 31. The massive mural is made possible with support from the City of Takoma Park, Takoma/Langley Crossroads Development Authority and JBGR Retail. For further information, please contact Melanie Isis at 301-445-7910 or misis@takoma-langley.org.



Washington Improv Theater, Courtesy Jeff Salmore

Washington Improv Theater Workshops Thursday, May 11, 7:30 p.m. and Monday, May 15, 7 p.m.

Ever wanted to learn improv? Here's your opportunity! Washington Improv Theater offers FREE workshops at the Takoma Park Community Center Thursday, May 11, and Monday, May 15. Improv skills build self-confidence, hone listening skills, boost creativity and allow you to

discover yourself. Participants must be at least sixteen years old to register. No previous experience required. To register, find the workshops on the City of Takoma Park's Facebook Events and click on the tickets link.



Third Thursday Poetry Thursday, May 18, 7:30 p.m.

Third Thursday Poetry brings you the best poets from around Maryland, Washington, DC, and Virginia. This month, enjoy readings by Mary Stone Hanley, Ryan Holman, Samantha Magrath and Robert Soley. Event and following reception are free.

We Are Takoma 2017-18 Season Call for Artists

Calling all creatives! We Are Takoma is now accepting online applications for its 2017-18 art and humanities program season.

"We are looking for performers, lecturers, and poets," says Marilyn Sklar, arts coordinator. "We have had performances from dance and folk groups, as well as a combination of both. Our talk series is open to writers, researchers, curators, professors and others. Finally, our call for poets is for our Third Thursday Poetry monthly readings."

Washington, DC, poet Bernadine "Dine" Watson has read twice now for Third Thursday Poetry, most recently March 2017, and she said she has enjoyed We Are Takoma: "I found a very supportive staff, an appreciative audience and had a thoroughly satisfying experience."

And, Watson is telling other DC poets about Takoma Park's poetry series: "I'm spreading the word and encouraging them to apply."



English folk group Callithump—made up of (left to right) Abraham Joyner-Meyers, Andrew Marcus, and Glyn Collinson--performed in March for a We Are Takoma event.

We Are Takoma programs are open to artists from Maryland, Virginia, and

Washington, DC. Some have come from farther away. The arts and humanities

series offers honoraria. Speakers receive \$100, and new for the 2017-18 season, performers receive \$200.

We Are Takoma staff members will hold a Facebook Live event on Wednesday, May 3, at 1:30 p.m. about the applications and program series. Follow the City of Takoma Park on Facebook @ TakomaParkMD and tune in with your questions and comments.

Performers, lecturers, and poets simply complete an online application on the City of Takoma Park's website: takomaparkmd.gov/initiatives/arts-and-humanities.

Deadline for applications is 5 p.m. on May 31. Submissions then will be reviewed by the Arts and Humanities Commission, and finalists will be notified by June 28. So, what creativity can you share with area residents? Apply today!

RECREATION

For more information and a full listing of our camps, classes and programs please visit: takomaparkmd.gov/government/recreation.

TOTS

CAMPS

Rookie Sports Camp

Have the little ones join us for a week of unique activities including T-ball, soccer, bowling, kickball, relays and more exciting daily events. Sessions take place in a safe, structured environment and sports are played through a series of games and activities. All the sports promote hand eye coordination, motor skills, group participation and communication skills. All participants must wear sneakers and dress appropriately. Paperwork will need to be submitted prior to the first day of camp.

Takoma Park Community Center
Rose Room
7500 Maple Avenue
3 - 4 years
Monday - Friday
Session 1: June 26 - 30
Session 3: July 24 - 28
9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Residents: \$80 / Non-residents: \$90



YOUTH

ART

Clay for Kids

In this class, children will receive instruction on how to utilize a variety of techniques (coil, pinch, slab work) to create one-of-a-kind sculptures and vessels out of clay. Caregiver participation required for children 4-5 years old. There is a \$15 materials fee (per child) due to the instructor on the first day of class. Instructor: Caroline Mackinnon.

Takoma Park Community Center
Art Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
4 - 8 years
6 Week Sessions
Monday Session: April 24 - June 5
Wednesday Session: April 26 - May 31
4 – 5 p.m.
Resident: \$130 / Non-resident: \$150

MAKE/Shift Studio I: Art Inspirations

Elementary students create exciting two- and three-dimensional projects in this after school class. Lessons include drawing, painting, collage, assemblage and mixed media – every class a different subject and medium. Contemporary and historical artists provide inspiration for this art program geared for 3rd through 6th graders. Beginning students welcome. Materials fee included. Instructor: Katie Dell Kaufman.

Takoma Park Community Center
Art Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
8 - 11 years
6 Week Sessions
Thursdays, May 4 - June 8
3:45 – 5:45 p.m.
Resident: \$150 / Non-resident: \$170

MAKE/Shift Studio II: Drawing & Watercolor

Have fun learning to draw with black, white and colored drawing materials, paint with watercolors, use pen and ink and explore mixed media approaches to representational imagery. Subjects will include still life, portrait, landscape (weather permitting) and floral studies. Beginning students welcome. The focus of the class is appropriate for students interested in developing a portfolio for entry into the Visual Art Center at Albert Einstein High School. Materials fee of \$25, paid directly to the instructor, will be due on the first day of

each session. Instructor: Katie Dell Kaufman.
Takoma Park Community Center
Art Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
11 - 14 years
6 Week Session
Tuesdays, May 2 - June 6
3:30 – 5:30 p.m.
Resident: \$140 / Non-resident: \$160

CAMPS

New spaces added to
CAMP RECESS
at the Recreation Center,
7315 New Hampshire Avenue.
Grab your spots soon!



Girls Basketball Camp

Participants will learn basketball fundamentals which include but are not limited to: ball handling, shooting skills, foot work, and overall knowledge of the game. Campers will also improve communication skills and teamwork all while having fun. This girls-only camp is operated by Sonia Chase, a former collegiate of the University of Maryland, and WNBA basketball player, Charlotte Sting. Please bring a non-perishable lunch every day. Paperwork will need to be completed prior to the first day of camp.

Takoma Park Community Center
Lilac Room
7500 Maple Avenue
7 - 14 years
Monday-Friday, July 24 - 28
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Residents: \$175 / Non-residents: \$195

DRAMA & THEATER

Dungeons and Dragons

Use your imagination and storytelling ability in this classic fantasy role-playing game. Roll dice to cast spells and battle monsters. Creativity and cooperation help the group

EXTENDED CARE AFTER THE BELL CHILDCARE FOR 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR

Ages Kindergarten – 5th grade
It is time to start thinking about next school year!
The After the Bell after-school childcare program for the MCPS 2017-2018 school year will provide a safe environment for children in grades K-5. Transportation will not be provided by the Recreation Department. Please contact MCPS Transportation at 301-840-8130 to change your bus route to New Hampshire Towers and we will meet them at the bus stop and walk them over each day for after care. Homework and study time will be provided each day. For more information, contact Vincent Cain at 301-891-7289 or vincentc@takomaparkmd.gov.
TP Recreation Center
Monday - Friday, 3:30 – 6 p.m.
\$1,250 for the year

“survive.” Taught by the library’s own Dave Burbank.
Takoma Park Community Center
Auditorium
7500 Maple Avenue
9 - 18 years
5 Week Sessions
Thursdays, April 20 - May 18
4 – 6 p.m.
Resident: \$55 / Non-resident: \$65

SPORTS

T-Ball League 2017

This coed league allows girls and boys to have fun while learning the basic fundamentals of baseball. Emphasis will be on fun, learning to hit, running bases and catching. No experience is necessary as all skill levels are welcome. Participants must bring their own baseball glove. Volunteer coaches needed. Games are played at 9 and 10:30a.m.

Ed Wilhelm Field
Ages 5 - 7
8 week season
Saturdays, June 3 - July 22
Resident: \$60 / Non-resident: \$70



Y.E.S League Summer Basketball This program provides a positive venue for youth to express themselves through the game of basketball. Teams will be guaranteed six games and each participant will receive a Y.E.S. League t-shirt. Games will be played at either 6 or 7 p.m.

Piney Branch Elementary School Gym
Middle School Division (Grades 5 - 8)
Mondays, June 12 - July 31
Resident: \$25 / Non-resident: \$35

TEENS

CAMPS



Teens on the Move

Four weeks of summer fun, fun, FUN! Each day is a trip on a new adventure! Broaden your horizons and maximize your courage and strength. Take trips such as rock climbing, horseback riding, ziplining, etc. Challenge yourself and overcome your fears during this Adventure Camp!

Takoma Park Community Center
Teen Lounge
7500 Maple Avenue
Grades 6 - 12
1 Week Sessions
Monday - Friday
July 10 - July 28
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Resident: \$120 per wk/Non-resident: \$140 per wk

DROP-IN

Power Hour

Take advantage of our homework power hour focusing on academic support. Students are given quiet time to complete homework or to read. Staff is available to assist and can review the completed assignments. Upon completion of work, students are invited to lounge, play games, and/or participate in activities. Registration is not required.

Takoma Park Community Center
Rose Room
7500 Maple Avenue
Grades 6 - 12
Ongoing Tuesdays
4 – 5 p.m.
Free

Teen Lounge

This special room is for teens only (Middle School and High School students)! You are welcome to watch two 50-inch and one 70-inch LED SMART TVs. We also have X-Box One and Wii Games, workstations, board games and comfy sitting areas for socializing with friends. Come join us after school for fun and laughs and on special events for an amazing time.

Takoma Park Community Center
Teen Lounge
7500 Maple Avenue
Grades 6 - 12
Ongoing
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 3 – 7 p.m.
Tuesdays: 3 – 8 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday: Closed
Free

Teen Night

Teen Night is a great way for teens to meet their need for social interaction. The Takoma Park Recreation Center (7315 New Hampshire Avenue) provides high quality, affordable, safe and FUN activities for teens. Come on out to a night of games, activities and more. Teen Night is held every second and fourth Friday of the month. This program is free with a membership card. Co-sponsored by the Montgomery County Recreation Department.

Takoma Park Recreation Center
Gymnasium
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
12 - 16 years
Ongoing Second and Fourth Fridays
7:15 – 8:30 p.m.
Free with Recreation Center membership

SPORTS

Y.E.S League Summer Basketball

This program provides a positive venue for youth to express themselves through the game of basketball. Teams will be guaranteed six games and each participant will receive a Y.E.S. League t-shirt. Games will be played at either 6 or 7 p.m.

Piney Branch Elementary School Gym
High School Division (Grades 9 - 12)
Tuesdays, June 13 - August 1
Resident: \$25 / Non-resident: \$35

TRIPS

Youth Summit
Wednesday, May 10
Silver Spring Civic Center
Sign up soon!

Teen Ultimate Fitness Challenge Trip

The Ultimate Fitness Challenge is the nation’s largest mobile fitness event traveling from coast-to-coast. At the Kids Ultimate



RECREATION
From page 6

Fitness Challenge, kids of all ages get the opportunity to flex their physical fitness by participating in a time-based obstacle course that includes sprinting, jump roping, wall crawls, hurdles, jumping jacks, sit ups, and tunnel crawls, before finishing off the course with a 20 foot confidence climb and 60 meter dash to the finish. The event also includes "xtreme" gaming fun like: Zipline, Bumperball, and Sky jump! The bus will depart the TP Community Center at 9:30 a.m. sharp! Takoma Park Community Center Teen Lounge 7500 Maple Avenue Grades 6 - 12 Saturday, June 11 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Free, however, due to limited seating, advanced registration is required.

ADULTS

FITNESS

Cardio Kickboxing

Cardio Kickboxing is designed to improve strength, aerobic fitness, flexibility, coordination and balance. This two-day a week new class will soon become a favorite! Please bring a water bottle and a towel.



Takoma Park Recreation Center Gymnasium 7315 New Hampshire Avenue 16 years and older 7 weeks April 6-May 20 Thursdays, 7:45 - 8:45 p.m. Saturdays, 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. \$75

Go-Go Fitness

Go-Go Fitness is a comprehensive 60-minute cardio, dance fitness workout that incorporates various dance styles and toning moves as well as the classic call and response of a live Go-Go music workout set. Takoma Park Recreation Center 7315 New Hampshire Avenue 16 years and older Saturdays, Ongoing 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Drop-in: \$5



SPORTS

TP Adult Summer Basketball League

Join our Adult Basketball League this summer. Assemble your winning team and compete against other area teams in order to win the league championship. Teams will be provided uniforms. Individual participants will be placed on a waiting list and contacted if space becomes available on a team. If space becomes available on a team you will be responsible to pay your registration and any other associated fees to that team. Takoma Piney Branch Local Park (Behind Piney Branch Elementary School) Ages 18 and older Wednesdays and Thursdays, June 14 - August 3 Games will be played at either 6 or 7 p.m. Team Fee \$200

What does Celebrate Takoma celebrate?

This family festival celebrates the cultural diversity of Takoma Park and its residents. On May 20 from 4 - 7p.m. on Maple Avenue, The City of Takoma Park Recreation Department will sponsor Celebrate Takoma. This will be the 5th installment of the annual community festival and the second year for the location being on Maple Avenue. This event becomes even more significant because of the heightened concerns surrounding the immigration status of some residents and funding for Sanctuary Cities. According to the Census Bureau, with high concentrations of residents from Ethiopia, El Salvador and Guatemala among other countries, Takoma Park is the true definition of a "melting pot." Celebrate Takoma features arts, crafts, entertainment, music, games, and food from around the world as well as the Azalea Awards.

Howard Kohn, long-time Takoma Park resident and community activist, thought that this was a much needed event. Kohn said, "There are lots of festivals in Takoma Park, but not one that



A dancer performs at last year's festival.

concentrates on the people that live in Takoma Park. This is like one big neighborhood block party. It is an event that exhibits the diversity that Takoma Park is known for."

This event offers a social benefit to Takoma Park and brings the community together. "In a small town such as Takoma Park, it is sometimes hard to find reasons to hang out with new people," Kohn said. "Celebrate Takoma gives kids the opportunity to play, adults

the chance to dance in the streets, and you as a community resident can end up meeting someone you don't know. All of this is pretty cool in my opinion."

In reference to this year's event, Howard said, "There will be a new band performing, Black Masala. They will get you out of your seat, and you will be dancing the night away. Also, the Riding Bull is returning. This was extremely popular last year. If you did not ride the bull last year, you need to put it on your bucket list for this year."

As you can see from Kohn's comments, Cel-

ebrate Takoma fosters community pride, teaches people new things and strengthens relationships. This is the kind of special event that generates interest from community residents and motivates them to have hometown pride. It leads to new friendships and allows for a community that is strong in diversity to come together as one. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and spend the afternoon with your neighbors.

RECREATION Special Events

Celebrate Takoma

This family festival will celebrate the cultural diversity of Takoma Park and its residents. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and spend the afternoon with your neighbors. Some vendors and entertainers are local to the Takoma Park area. Nominal fees for food stands. In the event of rain we will move inside Piney Branch Elementary School. Maple Ave (between Philadelphia and Lee Avenues) Saturday, May 20, 4 - 7 p.m. Event held rain or shine For more information, please call 301-891-7290 or visit takomaparkmd.gov/recreation/celebrate-takoma or visit takomaparkmd.gov/recreation/celebrate-takoma.



Family Outdoor Movie Night

Get ready for another Family Outdoor Movie Night. The movie will start at dusk at Ed Wilhelm Field (behind Piney Branch Elementary School). Bring your lawn chair or blanket and enjoy a movie under the stars with your family! The movie will be a family friendly "G" or "PG" rated hit. Bring snacks for the show. The Recreation Department will provide one small bag of popcorn per person and cups of water. Due to limited parking, walking is encouraged. Visit our website takomaparkmd.gov/recreation to vote on the movie. Ed Wilhelm Field Saturday, June 3 Starts at dusk





Award-Winning books for kids and teens

By Karen MacPherson

The Newbery Medal and the Caldecott Medal may be the best-known, but they are just two of the awards given annually by the American Library Association (ALA) to great books for kids and teens.

Here's a look at some of the awards that ALA bestows each year in addition to the Newbery (given to the best-written children's book) and the Caldecott (given to the best-illustrated children's book). It's important to note that, besides the top winner of each award, there usually are "honor" books as well. In our Library, we put yellow "Award Winner" stickers on the spine of all these books, so you can easily spot them on the shelves:

The Coretta Scott King Award honors the best children's books created by African-Americans and is named for the civil right activist and wife of Martin Luther King. Two awards are made annually, one given to an author and the other to an illustrator. Every other year, there is a third, related award given by the Coretta Scott King Award jury, the John Steptoe New Talent Award.

The Pura Belpre Award honors the best children's books by Latina/Latinos and is named for the first Latina librarian at the New York Public Library. Two awards are made annually, one given to an author and the other to an illustrator.

The Theodor Geisel Award is given to the author and illustrator of the best beginning reader, and is named for the man better known as Dr. Seuss.

The Robert Sibert Medal is given to the author of the best non-fiction book for children, and named for the founder of "Bound to Stay Bound" books.

The Michael Printz Award is given to the best book for teens and is named for

a librarian noted for his ground-breaking work with young adults.

The Odyssey Award is given to the best audiobooks for children and teens.

The Schneider Family Book Award is given for a book "that embodies an artistic expression of the disability experience for child and adolescent audiences." Awards are given in three age categories: young children, middle school, and teens. The award is named for Katherine Schneider and her family; Schneider, who was born blind, was inspired by books to pursue a career as a clinical psychologist.

The Stonewall Book Award is named for the newly-designated National Monument in New York City where the modern gay rights movement got its start, and is given to books of "exceptional merit" relating to the LGBTQ experience. Two books are chosen annually for the Stonewall/ Mike Morgan and Larry Romans Children's and Young Adult Literature Awards.

The Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature honors books about Asian and Pacific Americans. Three awards are given for young readers in the categories of picture book, children's book, and teen book.

The American Indian Youth Literature Awards are given every two years to honor the best books about American Indians. Awards are presented in three categories: picture book, middle school, and young adult.

All of the award winners each year, plus other great books, are included in the annual list of 100 "Notable Children's Books." We have copies of this year's list, which you'll find in a rack near a display of award-winning books in the Children's Room. So come and check out some great books for young readers!

CALENDAR

Circle Time

Tuesdays, 10 a.m. OR 11 a.m.

Spanish Circle Time

Thursdays, 10:15–10:45 a.m. OR 11–11:30 a.m.

Led by Senora Geiza

Bedtime Stories and a Craft

Wednesday, May 3, 7 p.m.

Join Ms. Kati for this fun monthly program.

Friends' Big Book Group Discussions

Wednesday, May 3, 7:30 p.m.

The Friends' Big Book Club discussions of Goethe's *Faust* continue.

Takoma Park Community Center

Petites Chansons/French Circle Time

Saturday, May 6, 10:30 a.m.

Join Marie-Fraïse des Bois (a.k.a. Madame Marie) for songs and rhymes in French.

LEGO Club

Sunday, May 7, 1:30–3 p.m.

Building fun for ages 3–10.

Comics Jam

Tuesday, May 9, 4 p.m.

Come read comics with Dave Burbank

Picture Book Author Adam Rubin

Thursday, May 11, 7 p.m.

Rubin will spotlight his new picture book,

Dragons Love Tacos 2.

Library Book-Sale

Saturday, May 13, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

On the Library Lawn; Community Center in case of rain

Caldecott Club

Monday, May 15, 7 p.m.

We'll be reading and discussing some interesting new books by previous Caldecott Medal and Caldecott Honor winners, including *Triangle*, written by Mac Barnett and Jon Klassen, the dynamic duo behind the Caldecott Honor books *Extra Yarn* and *Sam & Dave Dig a Hole*. All ages welcome; lemonade and cookies served.

Kids Art

Sunday, May 21, 2–3 PM

Picture Book Creator Chris Van Dusen

Tuesday, May 23, 7 p.m.

Van Dusen, known for his *Mercy Watson* illustrations, unveils his new book, *Hattie & Hudson*.

Friends Reading Group

Wednesday, May 24, 7:30 p.m.

Our book is *Red Sorghum: A Novel of China* by Mo Yan. (See article)

All welcome.

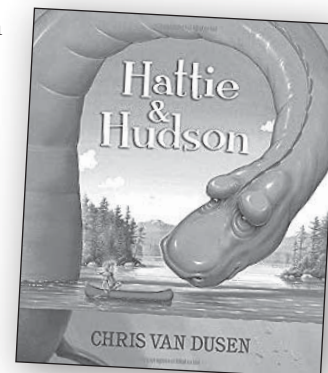
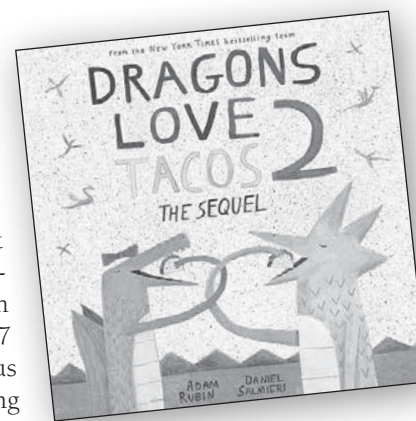
Coming Up....

Kick-off of SummerQuest 2017!

Monday, June 12, 7:30 p.m.

Two kids' authors at library in May

Mark your calendars for two May programs featuring best-selling kids' authors. First up is picture book author Adam Rubin, who will talk about his newest picture book, *Dragons Love Tacos 2*, on Thursday, May 11 at 7 p.m. In this hilarious sequel to the best-selling *Dragons Love Tacos*, Rubin and illustrator Daniel Salmieri tell a tale in which tacos have become extinct and the dragons have to figure out a way to bring them back. Rubin and Salmieri have collaborated on several other laugh-out-loud picture books, including *Those Darned Squirrels* and *Robo-Sauce*. Rubin will read from his new book, talk about how he came up with the idea of



taco-loving dragons, and take questions from the audience.

Then, on Tuesday, May 23 at 7 p.m., picture book author/illustrator Chris Van Dusen will present his newest picture book, *Hattie & Hudson*. Van Dusen, the illustrator of the popular *Mercy Watson* chapter books written by Newbery Medalist Kate DiCamillo as well as numerous picture books, is known for his humorous, vibrantly-colored illustrations. In *Hattie & Hudson*, Van Dusen tells of the unlikely friendship between a girl and a lake monster.

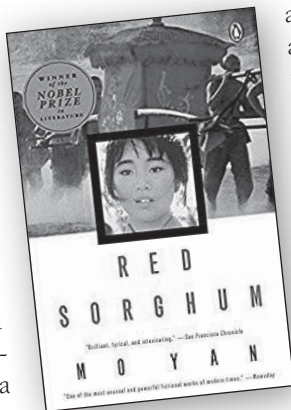
Politics & Prose will be selling books at both of these programs, but the programs are free, and no purchase or registration is required to attend.

Friends book group

By Tim Rahn

Red Sorghum: A Novel of China, by the Chinese Nobel laureate Mo Yan will be discussed by the Friends Book Group on Wednesday, May 24 at 7:30 p.m. in the Hydrangea Room of the Community Center.

In *Red Sorghum*, Mo Yan uses first person narration, magic realism, and shifts in time to tell the story of three generations of a family of sorghum distillers and resistance fighters in the Shandong province of China. The story, which takes place from 1923 to 1976, happens against a backdrop of interfamily violence, political intrigue,



and the Second Sino-Japanese War.

In the words of one reviewer, "Mo Yan turns these events over and over, introducing each a fragment at a time and exploring their significance as they pass from one character's experience into another's memory."

Originally published in serial form as three volumes, *Red Sorghum* was first translated and published in English in 1993. It has twice been made into a movie. Mo Yan was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2012. Copies of *Red Sorghum* are available at the library for readers interested in joining the discussion.

Takoma Park Folk Festival: Celebrating 40 years of community

Save the date for the Takoma Park Folk Festival (TPFF), September 10, 2017. The TPFF committee is in all-out planning mode for its 40th year, led by co-chairs Sarah Lanning and Robin Stearn, and a great team of new and veteran volunteers. TPFF is currently accepting applications from artisans who want to participate in its diverse and highly regarded juried craft show (applications due June 30) and food vendors (applications due July 1). Applications and information are available at tpff.org.

The festival will feature community



tables as always in order to engage its diverse audience from Takoma Park and the region around great causes and resources.

FOLK FESTIVAL □ Page 9

Thunderbolts announce schedule for summer camps and games

The Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts play in the Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League, a wooden bat league composed of ten teams in the D.C. and Baltimore areas. Top college players are recruited to play for the team. Players from outside the area stay with host families in Takoma Park and Silver Spring. If you are interested in hosting a player, call 301-983-1358.

The team also runs summer baseball camps in June and July for boys and girls 7 to 15. Instruction is from Doug Remer, the Thunderbolts head coach. He will be assisted by T-Bolts coaches and players. This is a camp for baseball players; kids have fun, and they learn the game of baseball. The emphasis is on fundamentals, baseball values and discipline, conditioning, and healthy lifestyle choices. After camp in the evenings, campers can attend T-Bolts games where they can cheer on their coaches. The location for these camps is Montgomery Blair Baseball Stadium.

Weeklong camps: The week long camps are June 15-23, June 26-30, July 3-7 (no camp July 4), July 10-14, and July

17-21, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. each day. The location is Montgomery Blair Baseball Stadium. The cost is \$220 per week except for week of July 4, which is \$190. Each week-long camp session is limited to a total of 50 campers.

Three-day specialty camps: We also offer three-day specialty camps for kids ages 11-16. In these camps there will be intensive training from Thunderbolt coaches on batting (Day 1), pitching and catching (Day 2), and the camper's choice of an expanded session on pitching or catching (Day 3). There will be a 3 to 1 camper to counselor ratio. The dates are June 19-21, June 26-28, and July 5-7. The hours are 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. each day, and the price is \$250 for each three-day session.

We provide bats, balls and equipment. Campers bring their own gloves and lunch. Each camper gets a Thunderbolts T-Shirt. Go to the T-Bolts website, www.tbolts.org, for early bird, sibling, and multi-year discount information, refund policy, and application forms, or call 301-983-1358.



Credit: Mark Verschell

Troop 33, Pack 33, and members of the Takoma Park Police Department at the troop's annual pancake supper (Nov. 5, 2016).

Exploring community

By Rick Henry

The Takoma Park Police Department has added to its ranks. Seventeen Explorers have reported for duty, outfitted with new uniforms and ready to be trained in police operations, criminal law, physical fitness, traffic law, courtroom testimony, drill and ceremony, public speaking and report writing. And none of them may have found their way to the department if it wasn't for pancakes.

For more than three years, Takoma Park Police Captain Tyrone Collington pursued the idea of starting a Law Enforcement Explorer youth program in the City. In early 2013, Capt. Collington approached former Chief of Police Alan Goldberg with the idea. He felt strongly that such a program, which allows young people (ages 11-19) to work closely with police and learn about and prepare for a career in law enforcement, would be great for the community and the department.

"I saw the program as an opportunity to have young people from the community and local schools work closely with law enforcement," he said. "The community is stronger when the police and residents are working together for the good of everyone."

Despite his enthusiasm, he was not able to get the program up and running - until a fateful encounter at the annual Takoma Park Boy Scout Troop #33 Pancake Supper, held on Nov. 5, 2016. At that event, Capt. Collington met Stephen Donnelly, who is the current district executive for the Boy Scouts of America, White Oak.

"While speaking with him, I shared

what my vision and mission was for the community. I expressed to him how we were seeking to start our very own Explorer Post in Takoma Park. Without hesitation, Stephen jumped in with both feet and offered to meet with me to discuss the process," Capt. Collington said.

Five months later, through several recruitment efforts at various high schools and open house events, there are 14 Explorers enrolled and engaged in the program, which meets every Thursday evening at the police department at 6 p.m.

One of those is Victoria Benitez, 17, who attended an open house for the program on March 23 and signed up soon after. At the open house, Benitez said she "likes all" aspects of law enforcement and was hoping to fine-tune her interest even more and determine "what she is most interested in."

According to Donnelly, such an approach is exactly the point of the explorers programs. "The main goal of the exploring programs (in general) is to provide our young men and women with opportunities to gain hands-on career experience," he said, noting that law enforcement is one of many different types of programs offered as part of the Exploring Learning for Life career education program, "Given opportunities to explore their futures, people might be surprised by our youth's capabilities."

Exploring clubs or posts are formed when a community organization matches its members and program resources to the interests of young people in the community. The program focuses on

EXPLORING COMMUNITY ☐ Page 11

SILVER SPRING - TAKOMA THUNDERBOLTS Charter Member Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League

THUNDERBOLTS 2017 SEASON HOME SCHEDULE FOR JUNE

Home games are at Montgomery Blair Baseball Stadium
51 East University Boulevard, Silver Spring, Maryland in the Four Corners Area

Admission Prices: Adults - \$6.00; Children under 18 - \$2.00
Youth baseball and softball players in uniform and children under the age of 5 get in FREE

Mon.-Sat. games start at 7 p.m.; Sunday games start at 6 p.m.

Schedule is subject to change. Check website, www.tbolts.org, for updates.

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT
Friday	6/9	Bethesda Big Train
Saturday	6/10	Alexandria Aces
Sunday	6/11	Herndon Braves
Thursday	6/15	Baltimore Redbirds
Saturday	6/17	Gaithersburg Giants
Sunday	6/18	Baltimore Dodgers (DH)
Monday	6/19	Bethesda Big Train
Tuesday	6/20	Rain Make-Up Date (If Needed)
Friday	6/23	Rockville Express
Monday	6/26	Baltimore Dodgers
Thursday	6/29	Gaithersburg Giants

Comments? Concerns? Questions?

Stop by on your way to work to talk about issues important to you. Locations will vary; stay tuned on the City's e-news and social media for locations.

Community Coffee

When: May 19 from 8-9:30 a.m.

Where: Los Pollos Restaurant, 6842 New Hampshire Avenue

Who: Join City councilmembers, Mayor Kate Stewart, and City staff for coffee and conversation.

All residents are welcome to attend.



"Starting Friday mornings with coffee and conversations with residents is the best way to get things done in Takoma Park!"
—Mayor Kate Stewart

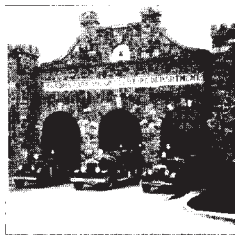
FOLK FESTIVAL

■ From page 8

TPFF is working to increase the number of participating groups to highlight the event's unique community feel. Community groups, please look out for an announcement to secure your spot soon. If you'd like to volunteer at the festival, look for a call for volunteers in June or July.

The program committee is currently evaluating performer applications and

will announce the 2017 lineup shortly. As with past festivals, the lineup will showcase musicians from diverse folk genres (including a youth stage) along with some dance and storytelling. Mark your calendars and plan for a delicious, fun day with musical and visual treats and the community connections that make Takoma Park special. Thanks to the City of Takoma Park for instrumental support that makes TPFF sing!



THE FIREHOUSE REPORT

By Jim Jarboe

As of Mar. 31, the Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department and the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service personnel assigned to the station have responded to 129 fire-related incidents in 2017. The department addressed or assisted with 672 rescue or ambulance-related incidents for a total of 801. Totals for 2016 were 133 and 808, representing a decrease of 140 incidents.

During March, Takoma Park volunteers put in a total of 1,616.5 hours of standby time at the station compared to 1,268 hours in March 2016. Grand totals as March 2017 were 5,124.5 hours compared to 3,812.5 in 2016, an increase of 1,312 hours.



Baby sitter grads

On March 27, the following girls and boys completed the TPVFD Baby Sitters Training Course: seated (left to right) Finnegan Hairston, Maeve O’Keefe, Brier Jackson, Lucinda Dougherty; standing front row (left to right) Elizabeth Dunne, Liv Dussere, Dixie Tavela, India Michaud; standing back row (left to right) Zolie Frost, Kate Wachler, Seth Michaud, Tyler Scorza and Zion Frost; (not pictured) Rudy Shumaket. Assisting Jim Jarboe with the class were Tina and Ashlee Willey, Ntshiuwa Sato Bess, TPVFD and Sgt. Jerome Erwin, TPPD.

Maryland fire deaths

The Maryland State Fire Marshal Office reported that as of April 28, 31 people have died in fires compared to 19 in 2016.

Safety message - Close the door

New research from Underwriters Laboratories Firefighter Safety Research Institute shows a closed door not only blocks smoke, it can also slow the flow of heat and toxic gases to give people the extra time they need to wake up and get out alive. It’s important that when everyone goes to asleep at night that they sleep with their bedroom door closed.

Fire safety presentation

Don’t forget! The TPVFD is presenting a special fire safety presentation entitled “Home Fire Safety.” We’ll discuss very important information that you need to know in the event of an emergency in your home. Wednesday, May 31, 7:30–9 p.m. It will be held in the meeting room in the rear of the TPVFD fire station. You must register; call 240-773-8954.

A prescription for avoiding a medical care disaster

By Claudine Schweber, Co-Chair, Emergency Preparedness Committee

To be sure you have the appropriate care in case of an accident, weather disaster or other health problem and that you don’t take old medications, here are three important components of a prescription for health care safety.

1. Emergency Contact: Post “emergency contact” information in your cell phone—person and phone number. In addition to listing the contact person, make sure this person has a list of your medications. This will enable the paramedics to continue care, follow medical protocol and especially avoid medication complications. Also, give your EC person pharmacy and doctor(s) numbers/email addresses, and tell this person where to find the medications in your home. Please note that HIPPA forbids giving

specific information re your condition to your emergency contact person without your permission; however, hospital personnel can use the information to contact this person if you cannot speak for yourself.

- 2. Medications:** Traveling? Talk with your doctor to obtain an extra supply of medication or get a second prescription. Keep the extra prescription at home until needed. While at home, make sure your medications are current.
- 3. Insurance:** Provide insurance information to your emergency contact, including the name and contact for the primary doctor. For out of area activities, find out what your insurance covers. Note that emergency personnel will take you to the nearest facility, not your preferred one.

Here’s a chart you can use to keep track of these items, share with emergency contact and others. Update every six months.

Name _____

Date form completed	Emergency contact information: person name, phone number; primary doctor and phone number, pharmacy phone number/email; health conditions (e.g. diabetes, allergies, etc.)	Medications: dosage; reason for medication(e.g. allergy meds); location of medication at home	Insurance: contact information, policy number
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Remember, being prepared prevents being scared. It’s easy to contact the Takoma Park Emergency Preparedness Committee at tpepc@takomaparkmd.gov or 301-891-7126.

Medication Safety

1. Keep medications that you are using in a locked area
2. Dispose of unused or expired prescription and over-the-counter medications as soon as possible.

Takoma Park residents have access to an easy solution for medication disposal. The Takoma Park Police Department has a Med-Return mailbox (green), open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It is located in the lower level lobby area of the Community Center (7500 Maple



Avenue). This box is safe and secure.

Safely dispose of any unwanted/unused prescription and non-prescription drugs, patches, ointments, over-the-counter medications, vitamins, or pet medication by placing the medication in the green Med-Return mailbox. No questions asked!

Note: Items that cannot be left are liquids, inhalers, aerosol cans, regular household ointments/lotions, needles/sharps, and/or thermometers.

Passport Services

Passport services are available on first come, first served basis Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center on the second floor. Takoma Park staff encourage calling the City’s main phone number at 301-891-7100 and checking if the office is open before departing for the Community Center for passport services.

For additional information, visit takomaparkmd.gov/services/passports.



CAR FREE

■ From page 1

Takoma Park. The categories for prizes will include most miles, most trips and most participation. Some of the swag to be awarded will include car-free accessories like bike lights, bells, baskets or panners and new walking shoes. You can also count on big prizes, including new bikes and loaded smart trip cards.

Residents of Takoma Park can also earn their next Green Home Certification sticker by participating in the Car Free Challenge. To earn a Light Green Certification for transportation, residents must complete 15 trips (minimum of 15 miles total) during the challenge. Medium Green Certification will be awarded to those who take a minimum of 75 trips (minimum of 75 miles total) during the challenge, and Dark Green Certification will be awarded to anyone taking 200 or more trips (minimum 200 miles total) during the Car Free Challenge.

Reducing the number of cars on the road does more than help reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Biking and walking are great exercise, and fewer cars mean safer roads for everyone. You might also be able to save a little gas money. According to research from the University of East Anglia in the UK, riding or walking to work makes you happier than driving. So break out your sneakers, padded bike shorts and metro cards and get ready to burn some calories instead of fossil fuels.

There will be a number of special events throughout the challenge, including a special raffle at Celebrate Takoma on May 20. To participate, register online at www.carfreetkpk.com. Once registered, you can log your trips two ways. Download the challenge app to your phone and track miles using GPS while logged in. You can also log your trips on the challenge website at www.carfreetkpk.com. Contact Sustainability Manager Gina Mathias with any questions, ginam@takomaparkmd.gov.

EXPLORING COMMUNITY

■ From page 9

five areas of emphasis: career opportunities, life skills, citizenship, character education and leadership experience.

Exploring Post 7500, so named because of the police department's address of 7500 Maple Avenue, is a shining example of the program in action, showcasing a strong commitment from Donnelly, who is in the community at large, with the Explorers and especially at the department.

"I have to thank our Takoma Park Police Department's sworn and nonsworn staff for their dedication and commitment that they give every week, serving as advisors to the program. Without everyone's relentless and unselfish support to the program, it wouldn't be successful," Collington said.

Among those advising is Takoma Park Police Corporal Roberto Rodriguez, who as a youth growing up in Montgomery County was himself enrolled in a law enforcement exploring program. "When I was young, I thought I wanted to be in-

involved in law enforcement, but once I enrolled in the program and experienced it, I thought 'this is for me,'" said Rodriguez, who started with the department in 2002.

As an advisor, Cpl. Rodriguez is undoubtedly busy as the program is full of activities. In addition to the weekly Thursday meetings, the Explorers have met most of the city council elected officials, city manager and city staff. Most recently, they attended the graduation for the community members that graduated from the eleven-week Community Police Academy. In the future, the Explorers plan to help Takoma Park with its many community events, including parades and festivals.

With so much to do, there is always room for more participants, Donnelly said. "The Takoma Park Police force is invested in providing opportunities for youth to grow into helpful neighbors. Come join Post 7500! Meetings are at the station every Thursday," he said. Interested future Post 7500 Explorers can contact him at stephen.donnelly@scouting.org, or they may contact the Takoma Park Police Department.

FARMER'S MARKET

■ From page 1

lettuce, shoppers will find pasture-raised meat and eggs, baked goods like bread

and pies and cookies, artisan cheeses, fermented foods, and the occasional local pop-up.

The farmer's market runs all year long, though the number of vendors is less in the fall, winter and early spring months. There is free parking for farmer's market customers at the Seventh Day Adventist Church lot, accessible via Eastern Avenue.



Credit: Helen Lyons

RECREATION

■ From page 7

during inclement weather.

Takoma Park Community Center Senior Room
7500 Maple Avenue
55 and older
10 Week Session
Mondays, May 1 - 22
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Free

Walking Group

Don't worry about the weather and join your neighbors and friends for indoor lap walking. Drop-in. No registration is required.

Takoma Park Recreation Center
Gymnasium
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
55 and older
Tuesdays, May 2 - 30
12 - 1 p.m.
Free

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT

Computer Basics

This three week course will introduce people with little or no previous experience to



basic skills such as sending and receiving email, internet searching, and using a word processor to compose letters, etc. You need a Takoma Park Library card to access the computers. Registration with the Recreation Department is required. Instructor: Patti Mallin.

Takoma Park Community Center
Computer Lab A
7500 Maple Avenue
55 and older
Wednesdays, May 10 - 24
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Fee: \$10

Computer Extras

In this three week course experiment with social media, master the calendar and other computer/smart device apps and learn what to do with all those pictures of family and friends. Bring your questions. You need a Takoma Park Library card to access the computers, and take this course. Instructor: Patti Mallin.

Takoma Park Community Center
Computer Lab A
7500 Maple Avenue
55 and older
Wednesdays, May 31 - June 14
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Fee: \$10

SPORTS/FITNESS/HEALTH

Cardio Groove Classes

High energy and fast-paced, low impact Aerobics that get the heart pumping and feet moving quickly, then a well-earned cool down

and stretch. Moves follow the beat of music designed for Aerobics. Instructor: Nancy Nickell.

Takoma Park Community Center
Dance Room
7500 Maple Avenue
55 and older
Thursdays, May 4 - May 25
1:30 - 2:30 p.m.
Free

Line Dancing

Learn how exercise can be fun with music. Instructor: Barbara Brown.

No class 4/12, 5/3, 5/31, and 6/7
Takoma Park Community Center
Dance Room
7500 Maple Avenue
55 and older
Wednesdays, April 5 - June 28
11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.
Free

Tennis Fun and Fitness

This class blends exercise with learning or reviewing tennis skills utilizing special equipment for indoor play. All equipment provided, but you can bring your own racket. Instructor Coach S.J.

Takoma Park Recreation Center
Gymnasium
7315 New Hampshire Avenue
55 and older
Thursdays, May 4 - June 1
12 - 1 p.m.
Free

**Sunday, May 7
8:00 AM**

**Takoma Park
Community Center**

TKPK5K.COM

5K RUN, 5K WALK, 1 MILE FUN RUN, 1/4 MILE YOUTH FUN RUN

East Silver Spring ES • Piney Branch ES
Rolling Terrace ES • Takoma Park ES
Takoma Park Middle School



Zumba Gold

Zumba Gold was designed for the active senior with less intense dance routines for beginners and older adults using modified movements. No class 5/20.

Takoma Park Community Center
Dance Studio
7500 Maple Avenue
55 and older
Saturdays, May 6 - June 17
2:30 - 3:30 p.m.
Free

TRIPS

Registration is required. For trip details and procedures please see the Forever Young Spring/Summer newsletter online at www.takomaparkmd.gov/government/recreation

Trip #1

New Harriet Tubman Visitor Center
Cambridge, MD
Wednesday, May 10
7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Trip #2

Washington County Rural Heritage Museum
Boonsboro, MD
Thursday, May 18
8:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.



MAY '17

Do you have an item for the city calendar?

Do you have an item for the city calendar? Let us know if you have a nonprofit event that would be of interest to City of Takoma Park residents, and we'll consider it for inclusion in the calendar. Deadline for the June issue is May 12, and the newsletter will be distributed beginning May 26. To submit calendar items, email tpnewseditor@takomaparkmd.gov.

"TP Community Center" is the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Ave., Takoma Park. All addresses are in Takoma Park or Takoma, D.C., unless otherwise noted.

PUBLIC MEETINGS OF NOTE

City Council

Budget Work Session, Monday, May 1, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, May 3, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, May 10, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, May 17, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, May 24, 7:30 p.m.
City Council Meeting, Wednesday, June 7, 7:30 p.m.
TPCC Auditorium
Detailed agendas are always available for review online at www.takomaparkmd.gov/citycouncil/agendas.

Memorial Day — City Offices Closed

Monday, May 29
All City offices & facilities will be closed
Monday, May 29, for the Memorial Day holiday.
The Takoma Park Police Department is open 24/7 for emergency services.

Takoma Park Emergency Food Pantry

First Saturdays, noon – 3 p.m.
Grace United Methodist Church, 7001 New Hampshire Ave.
Bi-weekly and monthly food supplements for needy families
240-450-2092 or educare_ss@yahoo.com
www.educaresupportservices.org

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Circle Time

Tuesdays, 10 a.m. and 11 a.m.
A beloved local tradition, the 30-minute program of songs, fingerplays, rhymes, movement exercises and stories teaches early literacy concepts in a fun way. The program is geared for infants through preschoolers and their grown-ups.
Takoma Park Maryland Library

The Spirit Club

Therapeutic recreation class for Takoma Park residents 17 and older
Wednesdays, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
This class is designed for adults with developmental/neurologic challenges. For more information, contact Jared Ciner at jciner@spirit-club.com or 303-883-4364.
TPCC Lilac Room
Free

Spanish Circle Time

Thursdays, 10:15 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Join Senora Geiza for a 30-minute program highlighting basic Spanish vocabulary through songs and rhymes.
Takoma Park Maryland Library

New Farm Stand at TPES

Every Thursday, 3:30 – 5 p.m.
Behind TPES next to the playground Featuring fresh, seasonal, local produce; farm-fresh eggs and pasture-raised chicken, the farm stand is open to the public and sponsored by the PTA. Cash, credit, EBT/ SNAP accepted. No pets, please. Produce is supplied by a local Montgomery County farm, Your Chef's Table. Questions? Email alisaobrien10@yahoo.com

Kid's Night Out

First and third Fridays, 7:15 – 8:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Recreation Center
Fun and games for kids

Teen Night

Second and fourth Fridays, 7:15 – 8:30 p.m.
Takoma Park Recreation Center
Games and activities just for teens

Takoma Park Farmers Market

Sundays, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Year-round
Laurel and Carroll avenues in Old Town
Locally grown produce, baked goods, meats, cheeses

Community Self Defense

Wednesdays, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
6836 New Hampshire Ave., Takoma Park
Certified Gracie Jiu Jitsu Black Belt instruction
Free and open to all

Parents of Special Needs Adults (POSNA)

This support and advocacy group of parents and other loved ones of adults with special needs including autism, Down's Syndrome, and severe chronic psychiatric challenges usually meets the fourth Thursdays of every month at the home of a Takoma Park resident. For more information, contact Mary Muchui at muchui@aol.com or 301-646-2109.

3rd Annual Montgomery County GreenFest

Saturday, May 6, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Bohrer Park at Summit Hall Farm
506 S. Frederick Ave, Gaithersburg
Activities for all ages, including an electric car show, do-it yourself workshops, music and food trucks. Presented by the Montgomery County Government, Montgomery Parks, City of Gaithersburg, WSSC, GreenWheaton, Bethesda Green, Poolesville Green, Silver Spring Green, City of Takoma Park, City of Rockville, University of Maryland Extension, MCPS Outdoor Environmental Education
Free

TKPK5K

Sunday, May 7, 8 a.m.
Takoma Park Community Center
5K Run, 5K Walk, 1 Mile Fun Run, 1/4 Mile Youth Fun Run

Historic Takoma House and Garden Tour

Sunday, May 7, 1 – 5 p.m.
Self-guided walking tours showcasing Takoma Park's historic homes. This year's event will feature the area around Spring Park that was once a Prince George's County neighborhood (intersection of Elm and Poplar avenues).
Tours run rain or shine.
Tickets \$22-\$25

Humane Rescue Alliance Adoption Event

Sunday, May 7, noon – 3 p.m.
Big Bad Woof, 6960 Maple St NW
The Humane Rescue Alliance will be showing off adoptable dogs and cats from its Oglethorpe Street adoption center. Visit Big Bad Woof and maybe meet your new best friend. See adoptable animals at humanerescuealliance.org/adopt.
Free

Conversations about Montgomery College's Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus (meeting 2 of 3)

Tuesday, May 9, 7:30 p.m.
Come share your views as the discussion about the future of the campus continues.
TPCC Azalea Room

Civil Dialogue Workshop: Building Skills to Bridge the Divide

Saturday, May 13, 3 – 5:30 p.m.
Historic Takoma, 7328 Carroll Ave.
Are you concerned that political polarization is dividing our society into warring tribes? Join Takoma Park Mobilization to learn and practice skills for conducting conversations about difficult topics that don't end in shouting matches. You will gain confidence in your ability to converse with people across the divide in an authentic, curious, and respectful manner, while maintaining your own perspectives and principles. Register at eventbrite.com
Free

Night Market at the Takoma/Langley Crossroads

Saturday, May 13, 5 – 8 p.m.
Takoma/Langley Crossroads,
7676 New Hampshire Avenue

This new, family-friendly street market celebrates local food, local culture and showcases Takoma Park's unique Takoma/Langley Crossroads' neighborhood. There will be a festive mix of vendors selling handcrafted items and international food, plus community groups, a moon bounce and live music by Latin fusion band, Zakke.

Grant Avenue Market

Sunday, May 14, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Grant Avenue at Carroll Avenue
The Grant Avenue Market returns to Takoma Park with an eclectic mix of vintage, collectibles and funky finds. More than 30 vendors will be offering furniture, housewares, clothing, collectibles, jewelry, posters, books, artwork, ephemera and more.
Presented by the Old Takoma Business Association
www.mainstreettakoma.org/featured-events/grant-avenue-market

VILLAGE OF TAKOMA PARK EVENTS

Village Rides Volunteer Orientation

Monday, May 15, 7-9 p.m.
TP Community Center, Rose Room
Orientation session for those interested in driving Takoma Park seniors once a month or more. Please call 301-646-2109 to register.

Friendly Visitors Volunteer Orientation

Tuesday, May 16, 10-11:30 a.m.
TP Community Center, Rose Room
Orientation session for those interested in visiting a TP senior once a week for an hour. Please contact The Village of Takoma Park at 301-646-2109 or email sandyeganretired@gmail.com.

Aging Well Network

Tuesday, May 30, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
TP Community Center, Azalea Room
Please join us for a presentation and discussion on the topic of Personal Safety for Seniors. Free and open to all, no pre-registration required. Refreshments provided. For more information, please visit villageoftakomapark.com.

Bike to Work Day Pit Stop at the Gazebo

Friday, May 19, 6 – 9 a.m.
Takoma Park Gazebo
Stop by for snacks and swag on your way to work. Hosted by Takoma Bicycle.
Free

Community Coffee

May 19, 8 – 9:30 a.m.
Los Pollos Restaurant, 6842 New Hampshire Avenue
Join City councilmembers, Mayor Kate Stewart, and City staff for coffee and conversation. All residents are welcome to attend.



ARTS AND LITERATURE

People's Open Mic

Sundays, 9 p.m.
Republic restaurant, 6939 Laurel Ave.
www.republictakoma.com

Drum for Joy! with Jaqui MacMillan

Mondays, 7 – 8:30 p.m.
Electric Maid, 268 Carroll St.
Learn hand drumming

Blues Mondays

Mondays, 7:30 – 10:30 p.m.

Republic restaurant, 6939 Laurel Ave.
www.republictakoma.com

Open Mic Night

Tuesdays, 9 – 11 p.m.
Busboys and Poets, 235 Carroll St. NW

Jazz Jam

Tuesdays, 7 – 10 p.m.
Takoma Station, 6914 14th St. NW
Open mic for jazz musicians

Wednesday Night Drum Jams

Wednesdays, 7 – 9:30 p.m.
The Electric Maid, 268 Carroll St. NW
Hosted by Katy Gaughan and friends

Carroll Cafe

Friday, May 12, 7:30 – 10:30 p.m.
Seekers Church, 276 Carroll St NW
Featuring Jennifer Cutting's Ocean Celtic Quartet, a benefit performance for Ocean Conservancy
Tickets and info at <http://carrollcafe.org/>

Screening of "Eating You Alive" documentary

Tuesday, May 16, 7 – 9 p.m.
Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church
"Eating You Alive" takes a scientific look at the reasons we're so sick, who's responsible for feeding us the wrong information and how we can use whole-food, plant-based nutrition to take control of our health — one bite at a time. The film will be followed by a Q&A session with a panel of experts.
Free

Third Thursday Poetry Reading

Thursday, May 18, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.
TP Community Center Auditorium
The popular "Third Thursday" poetry series features the work of a wide range of poets from across the region.

2017 Rock the Box U.S. Breakin' Championships

Saturday – Sunday, May 20 – 21
The Lab DC, 6925 Willow St NW
The Competitive Breakin' League presents the 2017 Rock the Box U.S. Breakin' Championships. Witness the top kids, teens and adults in the country compete for the U.S. Breakin' Title.
visit www.competitivebreakin.com

Takoma Porch Music Festival

Saturday, May 27, 2 – 6 p.m.
Multiple locations around Takoma Park
A unique music fest right on your front porch. Enjoy free performances on your neighbors' porches, business patios and the Gazebo. For schedule and locations, visit www.takomaporch.net.
Free

UPCOMING EVENTS

Third Annual Takoma Trukgarten

Saturday, June 3, noon – 5 p.m.
The third annual Takoma Trukgarten will feature offerings from local breweries, including Denizens Brewing Co., Manor Hill, and Full Tilt; food trucks; and live music.
City Parking Lot Next to 201 Ethan Allen Avenue
Tickets \$10-35
For more info, visit www.mainstreettakoma.org.

Washington Adventist University Women's Basketball Camp

June 26-30, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Washington Adventist University gymnasium, 7600 Flower Avenue
\$175 (camp tee shirt included)
For information about registration, contact Jered Lyons at jlyons@wau.edu or 301-891-4554.